

Appl. No. : 10/730,377
 Filed : December 8, 2003

REMARKS

With this Amendment, Claims 5-13 and 18-27 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4 and 14-17 have been canceled without prejudice, Claims 5-6, 10-13, 18-20 and 23-25 have been amended, and Claims 26-27 have been added. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled claims and the original, unamended claims, and to address the Examiner's rejections, at a later date.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indicated allowability of Claims 5-9, 18-22 and 25. Applicant has amended Claims 5, 6, 18, 19 and 25 as indicated above into independent form, including the same limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims, with a few clarifying revisions. Applicant submits that independent Claims 5, 6, 18, 19 and 25, as well as dependent Claims 7-13, and 20-24 and 26-27, should now be in condition for allowance.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If any issues remain or require further clarification, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's counsel at the number indicated below in order to resolve such issues promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 7-8-05

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